

FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CHELO'S RESTAURANT

June 15, 2005

Present: Sharon Kimbriel, Coffee Bell, Camille Pansa, Lorna Ricci, Kathy Samways, Chris Singleton, Alton Stuckey, Marie Citrone, Mary Okero, Kathy Leonard, Charles Zawacki, Ina Woolman, Gail Votolato, Claudia Lowe, Katie Lowe, Anne Rule, Liz Cummiskey, Eric Bradley, Col. Archambeault, Tiara Johnson, Liliana Fatuda, Carine Montiero, Frank Beazley (aides Bill McMahon and Steve Westerman), Bill Feole, Megan Reynolds, Renee Doran, Kate O'Connor, Mark Susa, John Susa.

The business portion of the meeting was deferred until the end.

I. GUEST PRESENTATION

Camille Pansa, Executive Director, SILC – She stated that the Statewide Independent Living Council does not provide direct services. She indicated that they do provide legislative advocacy, public education and outreach, and leadership development, indicating that each group has a committee. Camille invited all Council members to joint the SILC.

Lorna Ricci, Executive Director, Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL), also spoke for Leo Canuel from PARI. She reviewed the handouts that were on the tables, and stated that the programs they provide are: Information and Referral, Advocacy, Assessment Services, Community Living Option – Nursing Home Transition, Housing, and HomeChoice™. She indicated that instead of placing a person in a nursing home at hospital discharge, and having the patient lose their home, apartment, etc., the OSCIL program will go to the residence and make it accessible. Lorna was responsible for RI General Law Section 42-66.6-5 of 2004, which states that people must be informed of the community supports available that may enable them to live in a less restrictive community-based environment or their own home. She stated that there was a housing rally last week at the State House, and affordable housing needs to be put on the priority list. She also stated that transportation services should not be cut, and is actively trying to get on the RIPTA board. She indicated that the differences between OSCIL and PARI are that PARI also has personal care assistance and an equipment loan program. An information survey of her organization indicated that of 150 nursing homes, three people in each home were absolutely inappropriately placed – in many cases they are younger people with severe disabilities.

Sharon Kimbriel, Chairperson of SILC, indicated that they work in partnership with PARI, OSCIL and ORS to make sure direct services are provided where needed. A 3-Year State Plan is written by the

SILC. She stated that the SILC is a volunteer board.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2005 was made by Kathy Leonard, seconded by Claudia Lowe, and passed.

III. ALLIANCE FOR FULL PARTICIPATION REVIEW MATERIAL

Marie handed out AFP material to review. John explained the background of the AFP. He stated there are approximately 15 national organizations and SABE involved.

Marie indicated that in the fall there will be a National Summit of the Alliance For Full Participation in Washington, DC. Each state in the country has been asked to put together a State Team, comprised of people with disabilities, their family members, service providers, researchers and policy leaders. The Rhode Island state team includes the UCP, Arc, DDC, RIDLC, Sherlock Center, DDD, Advocates in Action, and PAL. The teams purpose is to identify challenges and barriers to full participation within the State. They have been meeting to move forward.

Each committee of the Council has identified some issues around the

three themes of: 1. Leadership; 2. Community Membership and Self-Determination; and 3. Enhancing the Quality of Supports and Services.

Marie asked the Council for any ideas or comments in these areas so that we can submit an overall Council response to the Rhode Island state team, which is meeting on Friday, June 17th at 10:00 A.M. at the Meadows Conference room, within the Office of Community Provider Network (formerly OSARR). Claudia suggested that the Council add a housing priority. Kathy made a motion to accept as written whatever the staff deemed appropriate in keeping with the Council's mission and values. Chris seconded, and the motion was carried. Anne Rule stated that the coalition for Rhode Island should include people with disabilities, family member and providers.

IV. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. John Martinelli was noted to be the new Member-At-Large for the Executive Committee.

B. The office has additional Summer Recreational Guides for anyone interested.

C. The 3rd Edition of the Accessible Rhode Island Guide is now available. The guide lists restaurants, museums, cinemas and

cultural sites that have actually been surveyed according to ADA guidelines. PARI and OSCIL will be distributing sites.

D. The ADAPT group let us know that the US Conference of Mayors this past weekend approved the following resolutions: Money Follows The Person, The Inclusive Home Design/Visitability, and MiCASSA.

E. Ina Woolman stated that there is a website, which may be of interest for all parents of children within special education. The website is as follows: www.napcse.org.

Kathy Leonard moved to adjourn and Bill seconded the motion. The Council meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Following our meeting, Kathleen Samways presented a brief summary of the Service Learning Program. Four graduates of the program were recognized, as well as Col. Archambault.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Okero

Claudia Lowe

Handouts: Council Response to the Alliance For Full Participation
OSCIL – Program Information, Services, June 2005 Newsletter
“Community Living Options” General Law information
OSCIL – Service brochure
RISILC Brochure
“Freedom of Movement” Independent Living History and Philosophy
Minutes of the March 23, 2005 Full Council Meeting